General Assembly

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Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 42

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/55/L.85)]

55/276. Organizational arrangements for the round tables for the special session of the General Assembly on children

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/93 of 7 December 1999 and 55/26 of 20 November 2000 on the preparations for the special session on children,

1. *Decides* that the special session on children shall include three interactive round-table sessions;

2. *Decides also* to adopt the organizational arrangements set out in the annex to the present resolution;

3. *Decides further* that these arrangements shall in no way create a precedent for other special sessions.

104th plenary meeting
22 June 2001

Annex

1. The round tables shall be held as follows:

Round table 1: Wednesday, 19 September 2001, from 3 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.

Round table 2: Thursday, 20 September 2001, from 9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Round table 3: Friday, 21 September 2001, from 9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

2. The round tables shall have as their overarching theme "Renewal of commitment and future action for children in the next decade".

3. Each round table shall have two co-chairpersons, making a total of six co-chairpersons. The co-chairpersons shall be heads of State or Government. Five co-chairpersons shall be selected from the five regional groups by 31 July 2001. The sixth co-chairperson, who shall be the head of State of the country of the President of the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, will co-chair round table 3.

4. Each round table shall be limited to a maximum of 71 participants, of whom approximately 66 will be heads of delegation of Member States and approximately

five will be participants representing observers and entities of the United Nations system.

5. Following the selection of the chairpersons of the round tables, each regional group should determine which of its members will participate in each round table, ensuring that equitable geographical distribution is maintained, allowing for some flexibility.

6. Thus, in order to allow for some flexibility, for each round table the maximum number of participants from each regional group shall be as follows:

African States	18 Member States
Asian States	18 Member States
Eastern European States	8 Member States
Latin American and Caribbean States	12 Member States
Western European and other States	10 Member States

7. Member States that are not members of any of the regional groups may participate in a round table of their choice.

8. For each round table, participants other than Member States, representing observers and entities of the United Nations system, will be selected by the President of the General Assembly, in consultation with Member States. In addition, the President of the Assembly, in consultation with the co-chairpersons of each round table and Member States, will choose, by 31 August 2001, two child delegates, taking into account equitable gender and geographical representation, who will each be permitted to present a brief introductory statement on the theme of the round tables in a language of their choice.

9. Each head of delegation attending a round table may be accompanied by two advisers.

10. The Holy See and Switzerland, in their capacity as observer States, and Palestine, in its capacity as observer, may also participate in different round tables, to be determined in consultation with the President of the General Assembly.

11. The co-chairpersons of each round table will be responsible for presenting orally their summary of the discussions during the concluding plenary meeting of the special session.

12. The round tables shall be closed to the media and the general public. Accredited delegates and observers will be able to follow the proceedings of the round tables via a closed-circuit television in an overflow room.